

Medicare trust funds for certain expenditures relating to union representatives at the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services.

S. 2024

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 2024, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a one-stop shopping information service for individuals with serious or life-threatening diseases.

SENATE RESOLUTION 277

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 277, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that, to ensure continuation of a competitive free-market system in the cattle and beef markets, the Secretary of Agriculture and Attorney General should use existing legal authorities to monitor commerce and practices in the cattle and beef markets for potential anti-trust violations, the Secretary of Agriculture should increase reporting practices regarding domestic commerce in the beef and cattle markets (including exports and imports), and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

MCCAIN AMENDMENT NO. 5176

Mr. MCCAIN proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 3666) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 75, line 10, after word "expended" insert the following: "Provided, That no money appropriated for the Federal Emergency Management Agency may be expended for the repair of marinas or golf courses except for debris removal: *Provided further*, That no money appropriated for the Federal Emergency Management Agency may be expended for tree or shrub replacement except in public parks: *Provided further*, That any funds used for repair of any recreational facilities shall be limited to debris removal and the repair of recreational buildings only."

MCCAIN (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 5177

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. GRAMHAM, and Mr. KYL) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

On page 104, below line 24, add the following:

SEC. 421. (a) PLAN.—(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall develop a plan for the allocation of health care resources (including personnel and funds) of the Department of Veterans Affairs among the health care facilities of the Department so as to ensure that veterans who have similar economic status, eligibility priority, or medical conditions and who are eligible for medical care in such facilities have similar access to such care in such facilities regardless of the region of the United States in which such veterans reside.

(2) The plan shall—

(1) reflect, to the maximum extent possible, the Veterans Integrated Service Network and the Resource Planning and Management System developed by the Department to account for forecasts in expected workload and to ensure fairness to facilities that provide cost-efficient health care; and

(2) include—

(A) procedures to identify reasons for variations in operating costs among similar facilities; and

(B) ways to improve the allocation of resources so as to promote efficient use of resources and provision of quality health care.

(3) The Secretary shall prepare the plan in consultation with the Under Secretary of Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) PLAN ELEMENTS.—The plan under subsection (a) shall set forth—

(1) milestones for achieving the goal referred to in paragraph (1) of that subsection; and

(2) a means of evaluating the success of the Secretary in meeting the goal.

(c) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress the plan developed under subsection (a) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall implement the plan developed under subsection (a) not later than 60 days after submitting the plan to Congress under subsection (c), unless within that time the Secretary notifies Congress that the plan will not be implemented in that time and includes with the notification an explanation why the plan will not be implemented in that time.

BUMPERS (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 5178

Mr. BUMPERS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KOHL, Mr. SIMON, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BRADLEY, and Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

On page 82, strike lines 6 through 7, and insert in lieu thereof the following: "sion and administrative aircraft, \$3,762,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 1998: *Provided*, That of the funds made available in this bill, no funds shall be expended on the space station program, except for termination costs."

THOMAS AMENDMENT NO. 5179

Mr. THOMAS proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

In Title III, at the end of the subchapter entitled: Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality, strike "\$2,436,000." and insert in lieu thereof "\$2,250,000."

THOMAS AMENDMENT NO. 5180 (Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. THOMAS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

Add a new section to the end of Title IV stating: "No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which congressional action is not complete."

BOND AMENDMENT NO. 5181

Mr. BOND proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

Insert at the appropriate place at the end of the section on HUD:

"SEC. . REQUIREMENT FOR HUD TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT RULEMAKING."

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall maintain all current requirements under part 10 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's regulations (24 CFR part 10) with respect to the Department's policies and procedures for the promulgation and issuance of rules, including the use of public participation in the rulemaking process.

SHELBY AMENDMENT NO. 5182

Mr. BOND (for Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 108. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may convey, without consideration, to the City of Tuscaloosa, Alabama (in this section referred to as the "City"), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, including any improvements thereon, in the northwest quarter of section 28, township 21 south, range 9 west, of Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, comprising a portion of the grounds of the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and consisting of approximately 9.42 acres, more or less.

(b) The conveyance under subsection (a) shall be subject to the condition that the City use the real property conveyed under that subsection in perpetuity solely for public park or recreational purposes.

(c) The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be conveyed pursuant to this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The cost of such survey shall be borne by the City.

(d) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

BOND AMENDMENT NO. 5183

Mr. BOND proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

On page 72, beginning on line 11, strike the phrase beginning with "but if no drinking water" and ending with "as amended" on line 15.

BENNETT AMENDMENT NO. 5184

Mr. BOND (for Mr. BENNETT) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert:

SEC. . GAO AUDIT ON STAFFING AND CONTRACTING."

The Comptroller General shall audit the operations of the Office of Federal Housing

Enterprise Oversight concerning staff organization, expertise, capacity, and contracting authority to ensure that the office resources and contract authority are adequate and that they are being used appropriately to ensure that the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation are adequately capitalized and operating safely.

SARBANES (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 5185

Ms. MIKULSKI (for Mr. SARBANES, for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 3666, *supra*; as follows:

On page 104, below line 24, add the following:

SEC. 421. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration by this Act, or any other Act enacted before the date of the enactment of this Act, may be used by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to relocate aircraft of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to Dryden Flight Research Center, California, for purposes of the consolidation of such aircraft.

THE ANTARCTIC SCIENCE TOURISM AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 1996

STEVENS AMENDMENT NO. 5186

Mr. BOND (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1645), a bill to regulate U.S. scientific and tourist activities in Antarctica, to conserve Antarctic resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE III—POLAR RESEARCH AND POLICY STUDY

SEC. 301. POLAR RESEARCH AND POLICY STUDY.

Not later than March 1, 1997, the National Science Foundation shall provide a detailed report to the Congress on—

(1) the status of the implementation of the Antarctic Environmental Protection Strategy and Federal funds being used for that purpose;

(2) all of the Federal programs relating to Arctic and Antarctic research and the total amount of funds expended annually for each such program, including—

(A) a comparison of the funding for logistical support in the Arctic and Antarctic;

(B) a comparison of the funding for research in the Arctic and Antarctic;

(C) a comparison of any other amounts being spent on Arctic and Antarctic programs; and

(D) an assessment of the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Arctic Research Commission with respect to the use of such funds for research and logistical support in the Arctic.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that S. 150, a bill to authorize an en-

trance fee surcharge at the Grand Canyon National Park and S. 340, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning equity regarding entrance, tourism, and recreational fees for the use of Federal lands and facilities have been deleted from the agenda of bills to be heard at the hearing scheduled before the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on Thursday, September 12, 1996, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce that a full committee hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Wednesday, September 18, 1996, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1920, a bill to amend the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and for other purposes, and S. 1998, a bill to provide for expedited negotiations between the Secretary of the Interior and the villages of Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc., Ninilchik Native Association, Inc., Seldovia Native Association, Inc., Tyonek Native Corporation, and Knikatnu, Inc. regarding the Conveyances of certain lands in Alaska under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes.

Those who wish to testify or to submit written testimony should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Presentation of oral testimony is by committee invitation only. For further information, please contact Jo Meuse or Brian Malnak at (202) 224-6730.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 4, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider S. 1678, to abolish the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet

during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 4, 1996, at 11:30 a.m., to hold an executive business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 4, 1996, at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing on "Teenage Drug Use: The Recent Upsurge."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 4, 1996, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SMALL BUSINESS JOB PROTECTION ACT

• Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, the Senate passed the Small Business Job Protection Act, but I voted against the final bill. I ran for the Senate on a pro-growth and low-tax platform. This bill is a step in the wrong direction. I cannot vote for a bill that raises the minimum wage and thus closes opportunities for thousands of low-skill workers and that raises numerous taxes on the American people and businessmen. However, I will say a few words in support of certain provisions of H.R. 3448, which do, in fact, benefit the public interest.

The bill includes provisions that will contribute to increased savings, higher wages, and improved economic growth. These are three of our most important economic challenges, and, Mr. President, I wish to express my belief that provisions of this bill begin to address these issues.

I am a strong supporter of the expansion of tax-deferred individual retirement accounts [IRA's] to permit non-working spouses to establish an account and thus defer taxes on a maximum of \$2,000 per year. This homemaker IRA provision, which I have cosponsored as a separate bill, is an important tool for families and their efforts to plan for retirement. In fact, over 30 years at a 6 percent rate of return, the homemaker IRA can add close to \$150,000 to retirement savings.

The previous law limited a nonworking spouse to a \$250 maximum IRA contribution, and, as women often leave the work force to raise their families, the homemaker IRA will help to offset the effects of their smaller pensions. The homemaker IRA thus offers significant assistance to these spouses in their efforts toward a secure retirement.